Government of Saskatchewan

Annual Report 1989-90

Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat

Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council

91-04357/

Annual Report 1989-90

Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat

Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council

Letters of Transmittal

Honourable Sylvia Fedoruk
Lieutenant Governor
Province of Saskatchewan

Your Honour:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Repor. of the Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat for the period ending March 31, 1990.

The creation of the Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat on October 3, 1989 as a stand-alone agency highlights the importance our government places on the senior citizens of this province.

The combined efforts of the Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council, the Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat and seniors in general will ensure that we are working together to secure the future for Saskatchewan seniors.

Sincerely,

Beattie Martin

Beattie Martin
Minister Responsible for Seniors

Letters of Transmittal

Honourable Beattie Martin
Minister Responsible for Seniors

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the staff of the Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat, I wish to present to you the Annual Report for the period ending March 31, 1990.

For the first time, the Annual Review of the Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council has been included as part of the Annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Perrins

Dan Perrins
Secretary

Honourable Beattie Martin
Minister Responsible for Seniors

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to present to you the Annual Review of the Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council for the period ending March 31, 1990.

Respectfully submitted,

Madge McKillop

Madge McKillop
Chairperson

Organization Chart
Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat
March 31, 1990

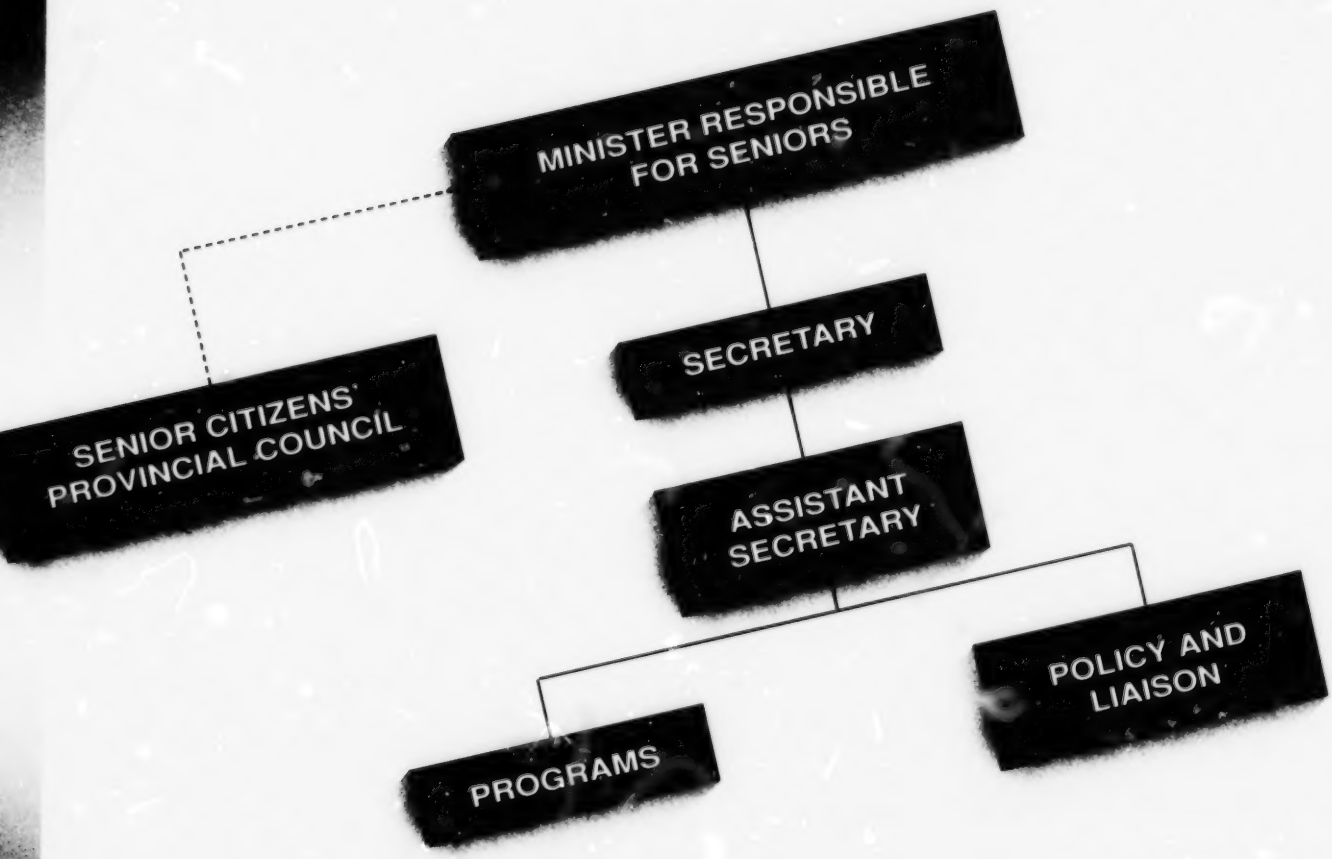


Table of Contents

Page

Organization Chart, Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat, March 31, 1990 4

Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat 6

Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council 8

Saskatchewan Seniors Population Statistics 9

Appendix
Legislation Administered by the Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat

Tables

Number **Page**

1. Grant Program Expenditures, 1985-86 to 1989-90 7
2. Grants for Senior Citizens' Services, 1989-90 7
3. Total Seniors Population, 1989 10
4. Distribution of Saskatchewan Seniors Population by Place of Residence and Gender, 1989 11
5. Seniors Population by Place of Residence and as a Percentage of Total Saskatchewan Population, 1989 12
6. Saskatchewan Population Age 100+ By Place of Residence and Gender, 1989 12

Figures

Number **Page**

1. Saskatchewan Population, 1964 and 1989 9
2. Saskatchewan Seniors Population by Age Groups, 1989 10
3. Distribution of Saskatchewan Seniors by Community Type, 1965-1989 11

Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat

The Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat was created on October 3, 1989. The Seniors' Directorate was transferred from the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment and made a stand-alone agency.

The Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat serves as a focal point in government for seniors' policy and program issues. Activities undertaken by the Secretariat may be divided into three key responsibilities: programs, policy and liaison, and information.

Programs

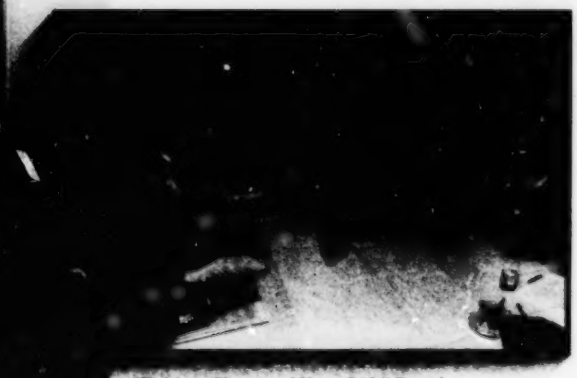
Saskatchewan Income Plan

Monthly benefits are provided by the Saskatchewan Income Plan to those seniors who have little or no income other than the Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement available from the federal government.

The maximum monthly benefits payable were $80 for a single senior and $135 for a senior couple. On average, 25,390 seniors received benefits each month under the Saskatchewan Income Plan for a total expenditure of $7,549,627 from October 3, 1989 to March 31, 1990. (See Table 1 for data covering the full fiscal year.)

Senior Citizens' Heritage Program

The Senior Citizens' Heritage Program assists low and middle income seniors to maintain their independence by providing unconditional grants.



"Taking Charge of Your Life" Panel — Seniors' Forum '89

Total Annual Income	Grants	
	Single	Couple
$25,001 to $30,000	$250	$350
$25,000 and under	500	700
$30,000 and under living in public housing	200	400

During the period October 3, 1989 to March 31, 1990, 1,931 grants were issued for an average benefit of $518.28 and a total expenditure of $1,000,800. (See Table 1 for data covering the full fiscal year.)

Grants for Senior Citizens' Services

The Grants for Senior Citizens' Services offers financial assistance to organizations providing services to senior citizens. The following grants were paid during the period October 3, 1989 to March 31, 1990:

- Operating grants totalling $513,816 to 244 senior activity centres.
- Operating grants totalling $51,235 to two provincial seniors' organizations.
- Transportation grants totalling $50,873 to 13 transportation projects.
- Construction grants totalling $84,569 to 15 senior activity centres.

(See Table 2 for data covering the full fiscal year.)

Policy and Liaison

Seniors' Forum '89

"New Directions, New Images" was the theme for the fourth Seniors' Forum held in Saskatoon, October 24 and 25, 1989. The Minister Responsible for Seniors invited 52 seniors to participate in this event, bringing together people with a variety of backgrounds and experience from across the province.

The Forum provided an opportunity for seniors, members of seniors' organizations, provincial ministers, and government officials to discuss issues of mutual interest.

During the discussion group sessions, seniors' views were sought on three specific topics:

- Taking Charge of Your Own Life
- Community Services: Helping Ourselves and Others
- Right and Wrong: Issues for Seniors

The Forum was a valuable exchange of ideas and provided insights into the issues and concerns of seniors.

Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council

The Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat provided administrative and other support services to the Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council.

Liaison with Seniors' Organizations

The Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat liaised with a number of seniors' organizations throughout the province. These organizations included senior activity centres, the Saskatchewan Senior Citizens "Action Now" Association Incorporated, the Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated, the Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association Inc., the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism and the Seniors' Education Centre at the University of Regina.

The Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat also assisted the Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated in collecting historical information on seniors' organizations in Saskatchewan.

Information

The Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat provided information services to seniors as well as the general public and other government departments. A toll-free telephone line provided assistance on inquiries about provincial programs and services. The Programs and Services For Seniors 1988 Directory continued to be available to the general public.

The Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat also maintains a Resource Centre on Aging.

Hon. Beattie Martin Responding to Questions – Seniors' Forum '89

Table 1
Grant Program Expenditures, 1985-86 to 1989-90

	Senior Citizens' Heritage Program	Saskatchewan Income Plan	Grants for Senior Citizens' Services
1985-86	$ —	$ 9,797,170	$1,131,770
1986-87	39,190,800	10,738,710	1,195,790
1987-88	37,706,561	12,787,625	1,031,363
1988-89	37,602,600	14,175,093	1,116,032
1989-90			
April 1 - October 2, 1989	35,823,450	7,561,287	372,201
October 3 - March 31, 1990	1,000,800	7,549,627	700,493
	36,824,250	15,110,914	1,072,694

Source: Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat files.

Table 2
Grants for Senior Citizens' Services, 1989-90

	April 1 - October 2, 1989		October 3 - March 31, 1990		Totals	
	#	$	#	$	#	$
Operating Grants	99	283,399	244	513,816	343	797,215
Provincial Seniors' Organizations	—	—	2	51,235	2	51,235
Transportation Grants	4	32,285	13	50,873	17	83,158
Construction Grants	12	56,517	15	84,569	27	141,086
Total	115	372,201	274	700,493	389	1,072,694

Source: Saskatchewan Seniors' Secretariat files.

Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council

The Saskatchewan Senior Citizens' Provincial Council was established by the Government of Saskatchewan in 1975.

Council includes a part-time Chairman and up to 14 members-at-large from various parts of the province. Four-fifths of the members must be senior citizens.

Purposes of Council

Council is an advisory body which offers advice to government. Specifically, the purposes of the Council are to:

- Represent the views of seniors across the province to government through the Minister Responsible for Seniors.
- Provide for and foster 'grassroots' input from senior citizens.
- Seek to identify senior citizens' needs, problems, and aspirations.
- Advise the Minister Responsible for Seniors on matters affecting seniors which he has referred to Council for study, review, and recommendation.
- Act as an advocate for seniors through such means as backing recommendations with fact-finding and research.

Ted Azevedo Receiving 1989 Saskatchewan Order of Merit

Council Highlights

- Held five Council meetings.
- Published the Supplement to a Study of the Unmet Needs of Off-Reserve Indian and Metis Elderly in Saskatchewan, Conclusions and Recommendations.
- Prepared an Orientation and Guidelines Manual for Council Members.
- Recommended to government that the deadline for Senior Citizens' Heritage Grant applications coincide with the calendar year.
- Supported National Seniors' Safety Week sponsored by the Canada Safety Council.
- Participated in a survey by the Saskatchewan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.
- Reviewed a proposal by a Native Institute for a Home Care/Special Care Aide Training Program for Metis and Non-Status Indian people.

During 1989-90, the Chairman and/or Council members participated in various activities including:

- National Symposium on the Family, Regina
- Women in an Aging Society Consultation, Regina
- Seniors' Forum '89, Saskatoon
- Saskatchewan Disabled Persons' Coordinating Committee, Regina
- Making Unique Choices Workshop, Regina
- Saskatchewan Gerontology Association Annual Meeting, Saskatoon
- Canadian Association on Gerontology Annual Meeting, Ottawa

Membership During 1989-90

Mr. Ted Azevedo, Nipawin - **CHAIRMAN**
Mrs. Doris Balkwill-Bellamy, Regina
Mr. Ernest Crowe, Craven
Mrs. Moira Gautron, Battleford
Mr. John Herne, Hudson Bay
Mr. Alex McLeod, Swift Current
Mrs. Irene Neilson, Craik
Mrs. Doreen Roberts, Regina
Mr. Reinhold Senft, Neudorf
Mr. Charles Watson, Saskatoon
Mrs. Marjorie Wettergreen, Prince Albert
Mrs. Marjorie Wiseman, Rosetown

Retired: Mr. George Marcotte, Estevan

Special Recognition

For his achievements on behalf of seniors, Mr. Ted Azevedo was honoured with the following awards:

- Saskatchewan Order of Merit
- Saskatchewan Gerontology Association "Award of Excellence"
- Canadian Citizenship Award

Saskatchewan Seniors Population Statistics

The 1989 Covered Population Report published by Saskatchewan Health shows that there were 136,335 persons age 65 and older resident in the province on June 30, 1989. The 136,335 seniors represented 13.2 percent of the total provincial population of 1,036,862. Among the provinces, Saskatchewan has one of the highest percentages of seniors in Canada.

The Saskatchewan seniors population continues to increase each year as illustrated in Figure 1. The number of seniors has increased 37 percent from 86,456 in 1964 to 136,335 in 1989. This represents an average increase of 2,000 seniors per year over this period. The number of seniors increased from 9.3 percent of the total population in 1964 to 13.2 percent in 1989.

Figure 1

Saskatchewan Population

1964 and 1989

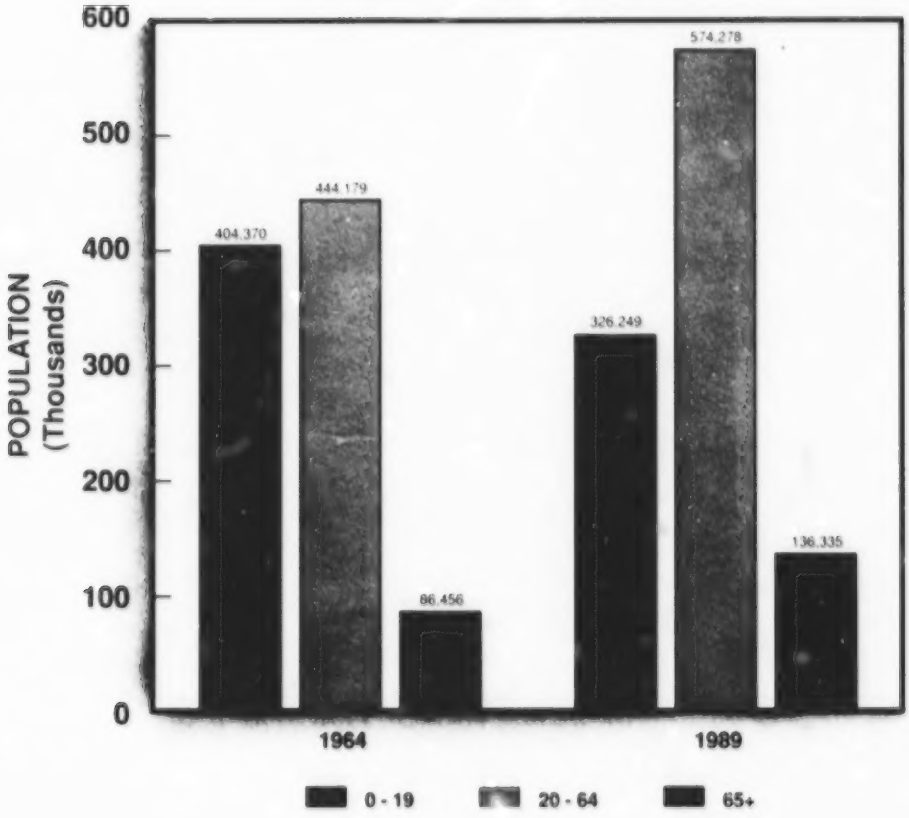


Table 3 indicates there are more female seniors than male seniors. Females comprised 55.4 percent of the seniors population compared to 44.6 percent for males.

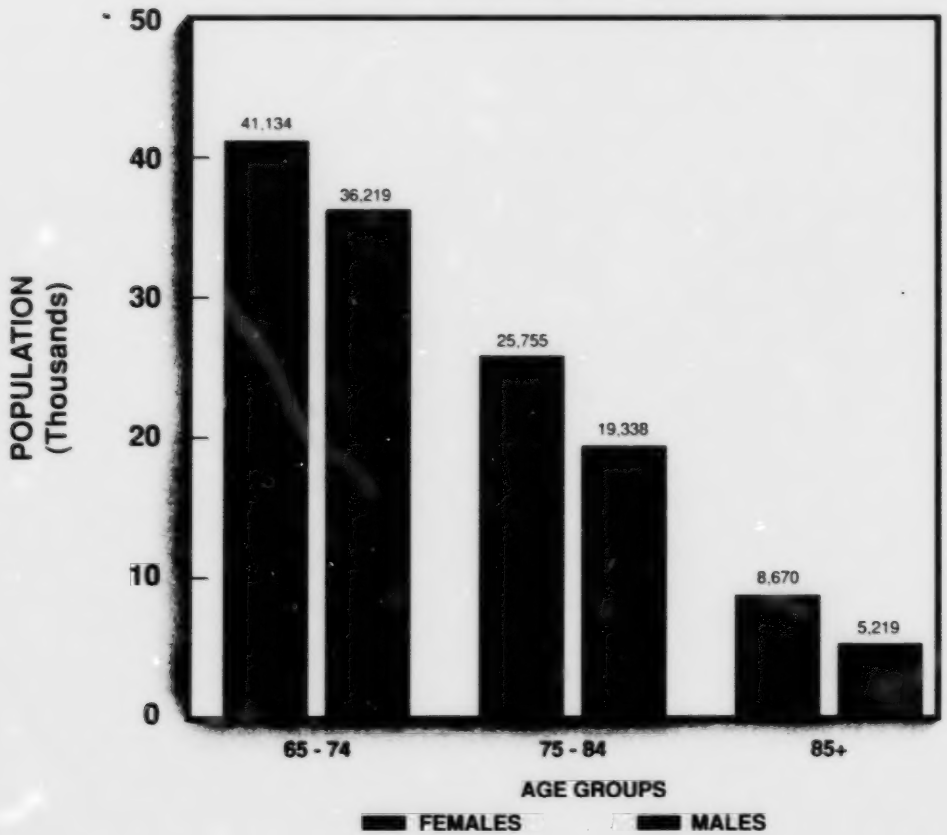
Table 3

Total Seniors Population, 1989

	#	%
Males Age 65+	60,776	44.6
Females Age 65+	75,559	55.4
	136,335	100.0

The majority of seniors are the "young elderly" represented by the decade group 65-74. Figure 2 indicates the 77,353 persons (41,134 females and 36,219 males) between 65 and 74 are more than the 58,982 seniors age 75 and older. The number of females was greater than the number of males in each of the three age groups outlined in Figure 2.

Figure 2
Saskatchewan Seniors Population
By Age Groups, 1989



The majority of Saskatchewan's seniors reside in cities. Table 4 indicates that 45.6 percent of seniors are residents of cities compared to 27.2 percent for towns, 10.2 percent for villages, 15.7 percent for rural municipalities and 1.3 percent for Indian reserves. Grouping the percentages for the towns, villages, rural municipalities and Indian reserves indicates 54.4 percent of seniors resided in "rural" Saskatchewan.

Table 4 also illustrates differences in where males and females live. More females resided in cities (48.9%) and towns (28.2%) compared to men (41.5% and 26.0% respectively). On the other hand, 32.5 percent of males resided in villages, rural municipalities and Indian reserves compared to 22.9 percent of women.

Figure 3 illustrates the shift of the seniors population from rural to urban areas. In 1965, 35.6 percent of seniors resided in cities while 64.4 percent resided in rural Saskatchewan. By 1989, 45.6 percent of seniors resided in cities compared to 54.5 percent who resided in rural areas.

Table 4

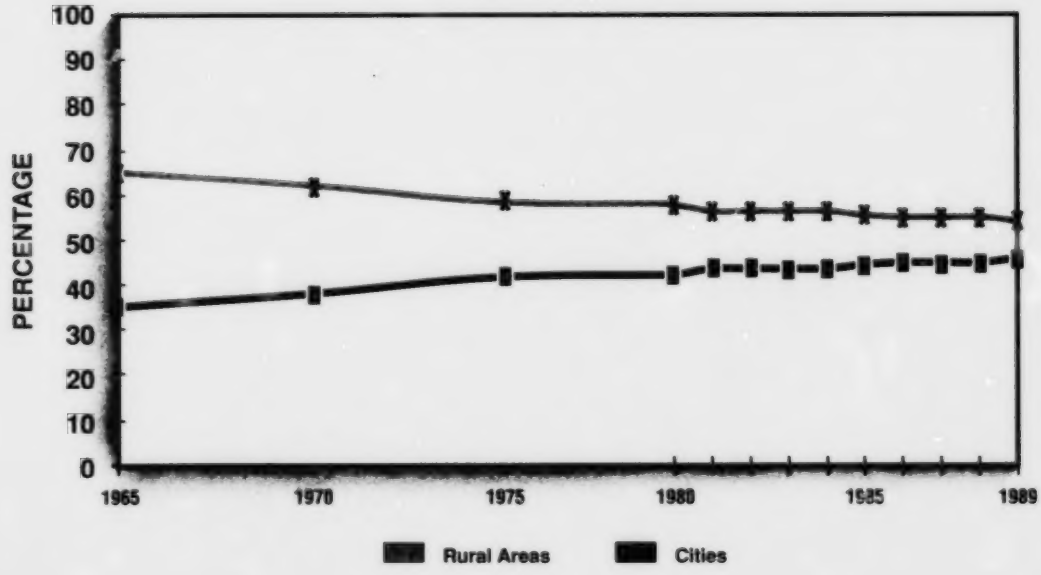
Distribution of Saskatchewan Seniors Population by Place of Residence and Gender, 1989

	Males Age 65+		Females Age 65+		Total Age 65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Cities	25,218	41.5	36,960	48.9	62,178	45.6
Towns	15,810	26.0	21,278	28.2	37,088	27.2
Villages	6,485	10.7	7,404	9.8	13,889	10.2
Rural Municipalities	12,406	20.4	9,000	11.9	21,406	15.7
Indian Reserves	857	1.4	917	1.2	1,774	1.3
	60,776	100.0	75,559	100.0	136,335	100.0

Figure 3

Distribution of Saskatchewan Seniors

By Community Type, 1965 - 1989



Gender ratios by place of residence highlights some differences across the province. The cities had the highest ratio with 146 females per 100 males. On the other hand, rural municipalities had the lowest ratio with 72 females per 100 males. Overall, there were 123 senior females per 100 senior males in Saskatchewan.

While seniors comprise 13.2 percent of the provincial population, their representation by communities is more varied. Table 5 shows the number of seniors as a percentage of the total population by place of residence. Seniors represented 21.8 percent of the population in towns. At the other extreme, seniors represented only 2.9 percent of the population on Indian reserves.

Table 5

Seniors Population by Place of Residence and as a Percentage of Total Saskatchewan Population, 1989

	Age 65+ Population	% of Total Population	Total Sask. Population
Cities	62,178	12.0	517,188
Towns	37,088	21.8	170,073
Villages	13,889	18.4	75,356
Rural Municipalities	21,406	10.0	213,491
Indian Reserves	1,774	2.9	60,754
	136,335	13.2	1,036,862

Table 6 indicates there were 170 seniors who were age 100 or older. Almost half of them were resident in the cities. There were 117 females and 53 males who had reached this milestone.

Table 6

Saskatchewan Population Age 100+ By Place of Residence and Gender, 1989

	Males Age 100+	Females Age 100+	Total Age 100+
Cities	25	58	83
Towns	19	47	66
Villages	4	6	10
Rural Municipalities	4	5	9
Indian Reserves	1	1	2
	53	117	170

Source: Covered Population Report, 1989, Saskatchewan Health, 3475 Albert Street, Regina, Saskatchewan.